

A few months later, Nicole took her own life.

On October 2, the Third Annual Nicole Burnham Veteran Suicide 5k will take place along the Rum River in Anoka, Minnesota, the town where Nicole grew up.

We cannot forget Nicole's story, and we owe it to Nicole and her family to ensure her legacy is one that prevents injustices like she suffered from ever happening again.

#### THE VIPER PROGRAM SHOULD BE EXTENDED

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, the Buffalo-Niagara region faces a serious and tragic rise in gun violence, as does the entire country. It has devastated neighborhoods and torn families apart.

Crime data released this week confirms that this is a local problem and a national problem as well.

In 2020, the number of murders in our country spiked by 30 percent, a record increase.

This year, the Department of Justice created the Violence Prevention and Elimination Response Task Force, called VIPER. Its aim is getting illegal guns off our streets and stopping violent criminals.

VIPER has been remarkably successful at stemming gun violence and saving lives.

Buffalo has seen a 50 percent decrease in homicides since the program started.

Each person lost to gun violence is another human denied a lifetime of opportunity and a family left behind.

VIPER is continuing through October, but the Department of Justice needs to make this a permanent program to stop gun violence in Buffalo and throughout the Nation.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SERGEANT MAJOR DAN ALTIERI

(Mr. BALDERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines, Sergeant Major Dan Altieri.

Sergeant Major was the living embodiment of the Marine Corps motto "semper paratus," always faithful, dedicating more than 30 years of service to the Corps.

Suffering unprecedented losses during its 2005 Iraq deployment, he led his marines in multiple combat operations, and Sergeant Major Altieri played a vital role in caring for Lima upon its return home.

As his marines and so much more of Central Ohio mourned for Lima Company in the wake of tragedy, it was left to Altieri to hold his marines together,

a task requiring both strength and compassion.

Outside the Marines, he was a family man. He was a loving husband and father. His devotion to family was reflected in the love for his wife, Kovette, two grown sons, a sister, and his mentorship of others.

Today, the hearts of so many Ohioans are with the Sergeant Major's wife and family, his Marine Corps family, the law enforcement community, and to the countless lives touched by this remarkable U.S. marine.

#### RECOGNIZING CLARK COUNTY'S BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

(Mrs. LEE of Nevada asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the tremendous students, staff, and teachers at Nevada's 2021 Blue Ribbon Schools.

Not one, not two, but three Clark County schools, all in Nevada's Third Congressional District, were just named National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education: Charlotte Hill Elementary, Frank Lamping Elementary, and Pinecrest Academy of Nevada Inspirada.

These schools were recognized for their exemplary work to close the achievement gap, expand educational opportunities, and excel academically.

I always say education is the key to opportunity, and I cannot wait to see where all of these incredible young Nevadans will go.

Congratulations, Clark County schools.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT MAJOR DAN ALTIERI

(Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I, too, am pleased to be here today with my colleagues to recognize the life and incredible service of Sergeant Major Dan Altieri.

Originally from the northeast Ohio community of North Canton, Sergeant Altieri served our country honorably in the United States Marine Corps for 30 years, ending his career as the regimental sergeant major for the 25th Regiment.

His more than 10 overseas deployments included tours in Grenada, Lebanon, the Gulf war, Afghanistan, and Iraq, where he was with the Columbus-based Lima Company.

When Lima Company was struck by a series of deadly attacks in 2005, surviving officers turned to Sergeant Altieri to help them deal with the unspeakable travesties that the war had brought upon them. A testament to his leadership and courage, his marines often said they would "Follow Sergeant Altieri."

Sergeant Altieri's service also extended right here at home, serving in

the Stark County Sheriff's Office in Canton for 25 years as a deputy, keeping our community safe.

Northeast Ohio mourns the loss of Sergeant Altieri, who was taken from us far too soon last week at the age of 62.

We will forever be grateful to Sergeant Altieri's service, and our community and country are certainly better off having witnessed his kindness and leadership.

#### REMEMBERING SCOTT LAY

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Scott Lay, a higher education advocate and beloved member of California's public policymaking community.

I came to know Scott when he was a young staffer at the Community College League of California. A product of Orange Coast College himself, Scott exemplified the opportunity that a community college education avails to millions of Americans. He would himself rise to lead the Community College League as its CEO after finishing law school at UC Davis.

He loved politics and technology and was a progenitor of highly read newsletters such as The Roundup and The Nooner at the beginning of the online publishing boom.

Scott's death is untimely and heartbreaking. He had an infectious enthusiasm. I know he would be proud of President Biden's Build Back Better community college initiative. I know he would want to be here to make it happen.

I am very sorry for his loss, and I express my condolences to his family and loved ones.

#### THE \$3.5 TRILLION TROJAN HORSE

(Mrs. HARTZLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, Democrats are here today proposing an elaborate spending scheme that will cost \$3.5 trillion.

President Biden claimed this week it would cost zero dollars.

Well, what is the truth? Let's find out what is in this Trojan horse of a spending bill:

The largest tax increase in American history.

A business tax that is going to be higher than Communist China, which is our number one adversary, putting us at a competitive disadvantage and causing jobs to go overseas.

The highest inflation in four decades. Already, families are being hit with high costs at the gas pump and at the grocery store. It is only going to get worse with this bill.

\$630 billion for the Green New Deal. This includes a \$7.5 billion to create a